

Aloha – and welcome to another edition of the Newslite from Tobacco-Free Kauai.

This e-mail will try to keep you abreast of what's going on in tobacco control. Please feel free to forward this message to anyone who has an interest in the information and, if you like, send me e-mail addresses that I will add to the list. Also, attached are the minutes to the last meeting on Oct. 21.

**TOBACCO-FREE HOTEL** -- We have received word that the Ohana Reef Lanai Hotel in Waikiki has gone completely smoke free. No more walking into the unhappy surprise of a stinky room when you travel. Even the steakhouse downstairs (with a bar) will be smoke free. We think it's a good business decision. (See New York item below)

**STARTER KIT KICK-OFF** -- Our Starter Kit community initiative to bring cessation assistance to health-care providers is progressing nicely. Andrea and Heather (and the local ACS) have been able to contact more than 100 doctors and dentists and will soon be following up with a nicely designed starter kit. Note that we have changed our terminology somewhat: we think Starter Kit conveys a more positive message than Quit Kit.

**ART UPDATE** -- Art (Tani) had surgery to remove cancerous material from his lung. Physicians were able to catch it at an early stage so the prognosis looks very good. He wants to convey that he appreciates all the concern and well wishes sent his way. He said that though he is a non-smoker, smokers are still at the highest risk of contracting lung cancer and we should continue to get this message across. Art will return to work on November 3.

**SMOKING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** -- The struggle is still on in our hopes to eliminate all smoking in schools. The latest is that the US Dept of Education, Safe and Drug Free Schools, Wash DC, has been formally asked to help with the problem of Hawaii's noncompliance to the Federal law (Pro Childrens Act), which prohibits smoking inside of school buildings. Hawaii is subject to fines of \$1,000 PER INCIDENT.

**STATE TOBACCO CONFERENCE** -- The state conference on tobacco control, **MAKING WAVES**, is this Thursday. The all-day affair includes talks from national experts and an interesting array of breakout sessions. If anyone is seriously interested in attending, please let me know as I may be able to provide airfare and registration fee.

**MORE GOOD NEWS** -- A new Zagat survey of 29,361 diners finds that 96% are eating out the same amount or more often as a result of New York's smoke-free restaurant law. Specifically, 23% said they were eating out more often because of the law. Also, restaurant openings outnumbered closings by nearly 2-1, with 174 new restaurants opening and 91 closing.

**ANNUAL MEETING** -- Our annual meeting/luncheon has been scheduled for Dec. 18. Please try and attend.